

KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the
Knighton Rural District Council.

The Cottage,
Knighton, Radnor.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1940.

Mr Chairman. Mrs Coltman Rogers and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1940. Owing to the War the Ministry of Health has asked for a very curtailed report. No statistics have been submitted by the Registrar General. all statistics will be given in a full report at the end of Hostilities.

The district is mountainous and purely agricultural. it comprises 16 parishes. The majority of the dwelling houses are isolated farms or cottages. The population has been increased due to the influx of Evacuees from various parts of the Country.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector are the only Public Health Officials. Both are part time.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. There is an Emergency Public Health Laboratory set up in Aberystwyth under the direction of the Medical Research Council. The services are free and the Bacteriologists are available for consultation on questions affecting Public Health.

NURSING IN THE HOME. There are nine fully trained general and Midwifery Nurses in the District.

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. The Hospitals at Shrewsbury and Llandrindod Wells adequately meet the needs of the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Four cases of Scarlet fever were notified during the year. Three of these occurred in the parish of Llanbister and one in Beguildy. One each of Chicken-pox and Erysipelas and 12 cases of Measles were reported. the latter occurring during the month of November. In all cases the patients made good progress.

HOUSING. A survey of houses in eight of the sixteen parishes comprising the Rural district has been carried out. By reason of the War conditions no action has been taken in regard to closing of Unfit houses. A good deal of sanitary and structural improvements however have been carried out.

MILK SUPPLY. Conditions under which cattle are housed and the handling and storage of milk supplies in the Rural area have been kept under observation. Many meetings with farmer-producers have been held and useful discussions taken place.

WATER SUPPLIES. Close observation of the water supplies of the district has been maintained. No serious shortage of water was experienced in any part of the Rural area. Most houses obtain their supplies from Wells and Springs. The quality is regarded as fairly satisfactory. Quite a large number of samples of water have been submitted for analysis and where these proved unsatisfactory steps were taken to improve local conditions.

All records and statistics are being carefully preserved so that a full report can be submitted at the end of the War.

I am Your Obedient Servant.

M.H. Carleton.

Medical Officer of Health.

